

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants submit herewith a substitute specification to correct some typographical errors in the specification. Also, paragraph numbers are added to the specification.

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ahrens et al (US 6,823,255).

Claims 1, 2 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Ahrens.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Ahrens in view of Ando et al (US 6,230,098).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections as set forth below.

Claims 1, 2 and 8 are amended to further define the claimed navigation method. New claims 14-16 claim a navigation device corresponding to the navigation method of claims 1, 2 and 8. New claims 17-19 are computer-readable medium claims corresponding to method claims 1, 2 and 8. Support for these claim amendments and new claims is present, for example, in FIGS. 22, 19 and 20; paragraphs [0174]-[0184], [0150]-[0169] and [0210]-[0211]. Claims 6, 9 and 11 are canceled.

Ahrens is directed to a system for distributing updated and/or upgraded navigation data to be stored on storage media in vehicle navigation systems. A plurality of local repositories are located in a geographical area. Each of the local repositories includes updated versions of navigation data for in-vehicle navigation systems. The navigation data may include geographical data files and navigation application programs. Owners of vehicles having in-vehicle navigation systems may visit any of the local repositories from time to time to obtain updated versions of the navigation data for their in-vehicle navigation systems. Subscriptions for obtaining updated navigation data would be available to owners of in-vehicle navigation systems entitling them to obtain updated navigation data from the local repositories. *See Summary of the Invention.*

Applicant submits that Ahrens does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended claim 1. In particular, it does not disclose "the map data being managed in units of a mesh." The reference does not describe a mesh at all. Thus, amended claim 1 is patentable over Ahrens.

Also, Ahrens does not disclose "displaying a route and a map including the route, and displaying along the route one or more meshes including more data judged to be updated based upon the route, when the route-based option is selected from the options in the menu on display," as claimed in amended claim 1. As mentioned above, the reference does not disclose the use of meshes. Moreover, with regard to a displayed menu, Ahrens simply discloses that its

“local repository preferably includes a graphical menu system including prompts that default to selections the local operator may want to choose, or those previously chosen by the vehicle owner.” *Col. 7, line 66 – col. 8, line 3.* Such a general disclosure does not correspond to the specific features of claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Ahrens for this additional reason.

Further, Applicant submits that Ahrens does not teach or suggest making a display in which a data update instruction can be inputted and obtaining update data along the route when the data update instruction is input. Rather than obtaining update data along the route when the data update instruction is input, Ahrens discloses a system in which a user obtains updated navigation information when the user’s vehicle is located at a local repository and the user inserts his storage device 76 into a slot in the local repository. In other words, the local repository provides the updated navigation information when the user stops and inserts his storage device into the local repository. *See col. 5, line 52 – col. 6, line 12.* This disclosure does not correspond to the features of amended claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over Ahrens for this further reason.

Claim 2 is patentable over Ahrens due to its dependence from claim 1. Additionally, Ahrens fails to teach or suggest the feature of amended claim 2 that the meshes are displayed so that a mesh is selectable for updating among the meshes displayed along the route.

Applicant submits that Ahrens does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of amended claim 8. In particular, it does not disclose "a step of prompting an input of at least one selected option in an update category menu prepared in advance and displaying the specific area distinguishably when the specific area is judged to have update map data based upon the input of the selected option." With reference to original claim 8, the Office Action refers to the Abstract, FIGS. 9-11 and the related text of the reference. The cited portions of the reference, however, only refer to updating the geographical data if the local repository has a newer version of the data set than the vehicle. There is no disclosure of displaying the specific area distinguishably when the specific area is judged to have update map data, based upon the input of the selected option. Therefore, claim 8 is patentable over Ahrens.

Claims 14-19 are patentable for reasons analogous to those for claims 1, 2 and 8, respectively.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

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please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
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Respectfully submitted,

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Jeffrey D. Sanok
Registration No. 32,169
Cameron W. Beddard
Registration No. 46,545

CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844
JDS:CWB:njr
dn#7434796_1